verification reports of sales received from States. On this basis State-wise details of payments made during 1995-96 are given in the Statement (*See* below). The details of payments made during 1996-97 will be known after 31.3.97.

(c) and (d) This is only the reimbursement of the amount of concession to the fertilizer suppliers made on the sale of decontrolled Phosphatic & Potassic Fertilizers to the farmers, on the the basis of certified reports of sales received from concerned States/UTs.

Statement

Concessional Sale of Decontrolled Phosphatic and Potassic Fertilisers—Payments Made During 1995-96

(Position as on 31.3.96)

States	Total Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	7257.85
Karnataka	3863.30
Kerala	506.77
Tamil Nadu	4528.69
Pondicherry	122.67
Gujarat	3791.55
Madhya Pradesh	3179.57
Maharashtra	7091.59
Rajasthan	1601.77
Goa	36.36
Haryana	865.49
Punjab	2191.10
Uttar Pradesh	7395.58
Himachal Pradesh	76.28
Jammu & Kashmir	40.90
Delhi	6.58
Bihar	1433.05
Orissa	1251.43
West Bengal	4408.14
Assam	294.93
Tripura	20.89
Meghalaya	14.00
Sikkim	3.07
Manipur	17.07
Mizoram	1.34
Total =	49999.97

Say Rs. 500 crores

Productivity and Quality of Pepper

2900. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Pepper cultivated in our country is below the international standards;

(b) whether research is being done to improve the quality of Pepper and its productivity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No, Sir. The quality of Pepper cultivated in our country is not below the international standards.

(b) and (c) Research is being done to evolve new high yielidng varieties of Pepper and to standardize cultivation practices. There is more than two fold increase in productivity over a decade due to adoption of improved technologies. The quality of our Pepper is conforming to the standards fixed by the importing countries.

Scope for Promotion of Marine Fishing in Orissa

2901. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the vast scope for promoting marine fishing in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to assist the State Government to tap the fishing potential of that State; and

(c) the scheme drawn up to promote marine fishing in Orissa and other coastal States in the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) The harvestable potential of marine fisheries resources of Orissa has been estimated at 1.44 lakh